

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release

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PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEE RECOGNIZED BY NATIONAL FIREARMS TRAINING ACADEMY

Eric Freemesser, a Firearms Examiner at the Monroe County Public Safety Laboratory, has received the National Firearms Training Academy's best research project award. Freemesser, who recently completed an intensive one-year training program at the Maryland-based academy, received the award for "Silencer Testing and Protocol," a research project that he conducted while at the academy.

Freemesser, 33, has worked for Monroe County since 1998 and is one of 3 Firearms Examiners working at the County's Public Safety Laboratory. Firearms examiners assist in criminal investigations by providing local police agencies with expert analysis of firearms, ammunition, and associated evidence.

"We are very pleased that Eric is part of our team," said **County Executive Maggie Brooks**. "Eric's training and expertise is invaluable to our efforts to fight crime and enhance public safety in our community."

The National Firearms Training Academy's intensive one-year program includes classwork, research and writing, evidence projects and testing, tours of manufacturing plants and a 15-week intensive training period in Maryland from the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF).

As part of the award, Freemesser will have the opportunity to present his paper at the Association of Firearms and Toolmark Examiners annual meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana this June. Freemesser's name will also be engraved on a plaque hanging in the ATF Laboratory in Maryland.